



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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### FY 2005 Supplemental & 2005-07 Budget As Signed by the Governor **Department of Agriculture**

*May 17, 2005*

#### **FY 2005 Supplemental Budget**

The budget signed by the Governor includes \$200,000 in one-time additional funding for the current fiscal year for two WSDA activities.

- **Spartina Eradication:** \$122,000 for herbicide applications in June 2005 for WSDA's effort to eradicate spartina, an aggressive weed found in intertidal areas. (Aquatic Lands Enhancement Acct)
- **Livestock Nutrient Management:** \$78,000 to cover a funding shortfall, consistent with 05-07 budget proposal. (General Fund-State)

The budget bill also adds language specifying that current funding for **Japanese knotweed control** can be used statewide.

#### **2005-07 Biennial Budget**

The budget signed by the Governor provides a total operating budget for WSDA of \$103.6 million. It includes additional funding for three activities requested by WSDA.

- **Livestock Nutrient Management:** \$240,000 for inspections and enforcement activities related to compliance with the dairy nutrient management law that was not provided when the program was transferred to WSDA from the Department of Ecology. The amount is \$30,000 less than requested by WSDA. (Water Quality Acct)
- **Sudden Oak Death:** \$404,000 for critical laboratory and professional scientific resources to support the state's response to Sudden Oak Death, a recently introduced plant disease that threatens the state's economy and environment. (General Fund-State)
- **Pesticide Surface Water Monitoring:** \$509,000 to monitor pesticide residues in a western Washington watershed of agricultural significance (Skagit) to provide additional state-specific data for federal assessments of a pesticide's potential risk to salmon. (State Toxics Control Acct)

The Operating Budget also includes additional moneys for five items directly related to WSDA programs:

- **Small Farm & Direct Marketing:** Increases GF-S funding for this program from \$150,000 to \$300,000.
- **UDDER Project:** \$466,000 in one-time funding to complete a unified database that would enable WSDA to more effectively respond to a food safety or animal disease emergency.
- **Market Access/Trade Barrier grants:** \$500,000 to restore funding to a grant program created in 2001.
- **Poultry Disease Eradication:** \$25,000 for indemnity payments to poultry owners.
- **Agricultural Worker Pesticide Training:** \$200,000 provided through the Dept. of Labor & Industries budget for agricultural worker pesticide handling and application training.

The budget also includes four items that support industry initiatives:

- **Hop Technology:** \$1 million in one-time funding to research and develop new hop harvesting technologies and associated projects.
- **Asparagus Technology:** \$1 million in one-time funding for FY 06 to expand the current asparagus automation and mechanization project, an effort to strengthen the asparagus post-harvest industry.
- **Washington Wine:** \$300,000 to support a campaign creating a brand identity for Washington wines.
- **Agricultural Fair Study:** \$75,000 for an economic impact study of agricultural fairs in Washington.

The final **Capital Budget** includes \$200,000 to continue providing grants for fairground improvement projects and an additional \$500,000 for the Hop Technology Initiative.

The budget also includes:

- **Spartina:** language authorizing WSDA to enter into agreements with federal agencies to eradicate spartina from private lands that may provide a source of re-infestation to public lands.
- **Middle Management Reduction:** a reduction of \$449,000, including a \$128,000 reduction in GF-S funding, as WSDA's share of the statewide reduction that eliminates 1,000 mid-management positions by the end of the biennium. The reduction is to be phased in with 7.7 FTEs to be cut by June 2007.
- **Fees Adopted in Rule:** Continued authority for the Director to increase fees and assessments adopted in rule in excess of the fiscal growth factor.
- **Self-Insurance Premium:** Adjustments to WSDA's "maintenance level" budget, including \$386,000 to cover the increase in the agency's self-insurance premium. (General Fund-State)

*For more information, contact [Mary Beth Lang](#), Assistant to the Director, at (360) 902-1812.*